



# michoud messenger

Volume 2, Issue 12 | December 1, 2010

## Secretary Chu Visits Michoud Assembly Facility



Department of Energy Secretary Dr. Steven Chu, left, visited NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility Nov. 11. MAF's Malcolm Wood, center, and Capt. Sue Englbert, right, of the U.S. Coast Guard led Chu on a tour of the facility. Chu toured the Coast Guard's facility at MAF and visited Blade Dynamics. The Coast Guard briefed Chu on its efforts related to the investigation of the BP Blowout Preventer (BOP) while Blade officials informed Chu on its wind turbine company at MAF.

## Letters from Leadership

### *Holiday Safety*

As we enter the holiday season, let's pause a moment to consider a few safety tips. Holiday shopping, parties and family meals top most people's lists these days, but not many take the time to think safety. Please remember these important safety tips when enjoying the next several weeks.



### **Manage stress**

The holidays don't need to take a toll on your health. Keep a check on over-commitment and over-spending. Balance work, home and play. Get support from family and friends. Practice time management. Keep a relaxed and positive outlook.

### **Travel safely**

Whether you're traveling across town or around the world, help ensure your trip is safe. Don't drink and drive, and don't let someone else drink and drive. Wear a seat belt every time you drive or ride in a motor vehicle. Always buckle your child in the car using a child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt according to his/her height, weight and age.

**Leadership** – Continued on page 3

# Hahnville Career Day



MAF employee Steven Seipel, a Hahnville graduate, participated in the Hahnville High School career day Nov. 3 along with other professionals from various disciplines. Seipel is a professional photographer and videographer who works in the media services department. Front row: attorney Megan Matheny, plant operator Mike Fabre, plant operator Keith Campo, Audubon zoo volunteer coordinator Stephanie Joseph Back row: plant operator Steve Madere, meteorologist Gavin Phillips, Steve Seipel, architect Glenn Higgins, chemical engineer Duane Every, paramedic Jerry Domaschk.

# Safety and Health Fair



LT Denise Brewton of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary hands out information during the Michoud Assembly Facility Safety and Health fair Nov. 3. More than 600 MAF employees attended the event and were greeted by 45 Safety and Health provider vendors. Keeping in mind the fair theme of "Beyond Zero a culture of caring," fair vendors provided employees with safety and health information for work and home use. In addition, health and medical type screenings were provided to employees attending the event.

# MAF Tech Expo 2010



Colin Lusk, left, and Rob Gravolet, right, speak with representatives of Verizon during the 2010 MAF Technology Expo Nov. 9. Dozens of vendors set up informational booths while more than 200 MAF employees got a chance to experience the latest in technology. NASA's Office of the Chief of Information Officer sponsored the event along with Lockheed Martin's ODIN.

# NASA and LSU Day



Little Louisiana State University (LSU) fans color the NASA logo Nov. 13 during LSU Day on the Baton Rouge campus. Hundreds of people attended the event, designed to showcase the university and the partnership between industry and academia. Employees from Michoud Assembly Facility manned an educational booth and handed out shuttle stickers. The MAF booth included interactive activities for kids designed to get them excited about science, math and technology.



# Holiday Awards Banquet

**Friday, December 17, 2010**  
7 pm – 11 pm

## Trinity's Banquet Hall

1000 Caruso Blvd., Suite 201  
Slidell, LA 70461-3511

**Live Band - Groovy 7**

Free Parking

Buffet - Cash Bar

Hors d'Oeuvres

Free Prizes



*Open to all MSFOC Teammates.*

*Please see your Department Administrator to RSVP.*

## Employee Spotlight



Michoud Director of Business Development, Ray Vogel, recently graduated from the Jacobs Leadership Development Program (LDP). "The Jacobs LDP was a great way to get to know Jacobs better, both through the classroom sessions and through the regular interaction with future leaders from across the country," said Vogel. "It also was an excellent way to increase awareness of our own contract outside of MAF and to get an outside perspective on the issues and concerns we deal with on a regular basis. I am very grateful to have had the chance to participate in such a great experience."

The LDP is a year-long program designed to enhance and improve professional development among employees. Also graduating from this year's program was Robert Poche and Heather Brooks. Next month we'll spotlight Poche. Caption: Ray Vogel receives his LDP certificate of completion from Jacobs Technology President Rogers Starr.

## Leadership

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### Prevent injuries

Injuries can occur anywhere and some often occur around the holidays. Use step stools instead of furniture when hanging decorations. Leave the fireworks to the professionals.

These tips and more can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/family/holiday>. From all of us in the NASA MAF office, have a safe and happy holiday season.

– Malcolm Wood, MAF Deputy Chief Operating Officer

## MAF Job Shadow Day



Three students from Hahnville High School visited Michoud Assembly Facility Sept. 28 to shadow employees. Hahnville junior Derek Cantrelle shadowed Keith Heitzman for the morning. Heitzman is an engineer and is currently helping the Coast Guard with its efforts to investigate the Blowout Preventer. Pictured from left to right are Keith Heitzman, Jacques Petit, Derek Cantrelle and Cameron Fahrig. Other MAF mentors who helped out during the Shadow Day were Ray Vogel and Jason Clayton (both not pictured).

## ROBOEagles Donation



Sean Barnes, center, presented Manufacturing Technical Solutions (MTS's) \$500 donation to the FIRST Lego League team at Lake Forest Elementary Charter School Nov. 3. The ROBOEagles team built an impressive robot that can automatically navigate a course and accomplish 12 missions within 2.5 minutes. The students programmed the robot themselves using a laptop computer and a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) on the robot. Also, they built a project presentation focused on the use of nanorobots that can help people with Cystic Fibrosis to breathe better using Bluetooth technology to control the nanorobot.

## UNO-NCAM Mod & Sim Supports NASA

In a recent program funded by NASA, University of New Orleans - National Center for Advanced Manufacturing (UNO-NCAM) used Modeling and Simulation Technology to determine the correct size of equipment needed for Ares V production. They also created animations to demonstrate proposed production processes. UNO-NCAM worked with a mandrel manufacturer and NASA to design the tooling for the payload shroud and for a cylindrical section of the Ares V. The shroud tooling was used to determine equipment requirements including an autoclave, fiber placement machines and a machining center. UNO-NCAM worked with equipment vendors to secure designs, plans and models. In the photo, Dr. Greg Dobson of UNO demonstrates how the simulated fiber placement machine lays tows on the Ares V cylindrical mandrel.



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

### Michoud Assembly Facility

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[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)

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